national consultation was organized on 18.2.2005 in New Delhi. The purpose of consultation was to take into account all the perspectives and practical experiences to be reflected in the booklet.

The National Commission for Women has taken up the issue of NRI husbands abandoning their wives as a priority area during the year and conducted two regional workshops at Chandigarh and Thiruvananthapuram.

The Government of Punjab has informed that an NRI Cell has been set up in the Office of Director General of Police, Punjab to provide legal aid and counselling services for the prospective brides.

Inclusion of creches in ICDS

2875. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to restructure and strengthen the ICDS to include provision of day care/creche facilties in pre-school education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Low birth rate of female child

2876. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the birth rate of female child is alarmingly low in spite of Government taking several steps;